



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Confirmation No. 7494

SUMITOMO

Art Unit: 3752

Application No. 10/691,547

Examiner: Brinson, Patrick F.

Filed: October 24, 2003

Atty. Docket No. 103213-00060

For: HOSE

DECLARATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

I, the undersigned, hereby declare the following:

- 1) I am the sole inventor of the invention described by the above-referenced patent application.
- 2) I am aware that claims 1-10, the currently pending claims of the above-referenced application have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of Chih (US 2004/0123914 A1) filed on July 1, 2003.
- 3) The present application was filed on October 24, 2003, in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.
- 4) The present application is based on Japanese patent application no. 2001-309756, which was filed in Japan on October 5, 2001, before the filing date of Chih, namely, before, July 1, 2003.
- 5) I conceived of the invention recited in claims 1-10 before the filing date of Chih, namely, before, July 1, 2003.
- 6) I attach herewith a verified English translation of the Japanese patent application to show that the conception and reduction to practice of the invention, described in the above referenced patent application and recited in claims 1-10, occurred on or before October 5, 2001, which date is before the filing date of Chih,

namely, before July 1, 2003.

6) The undersigned Declarant does hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Yoshiyuki Sumitomo
Yoshiyuki Sumitomo

October 25, 2004
Date